

Amendment After Allowance, under 37 CFR 1.312

Date filed November 26, 2007

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/976,153

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-6, and 11 are currently pending, of which claims 1 and 11 have been amended herein. Claims 2, 3, 7-10, and 12-15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter.

Applicants and Applicants' attorney thank Examiner Mussa A. Shaawat for the interview courteously granted on July 18, 2007, July 23, 2007 and August 9, 2007. The special attention the Examiner paid to the instant application is noted with appreciation. On July 18, 2007, the Examiner suggested that claims 1, 4-6, and 11 have informalities. Accordingly, on July 23, 2007, proposed claim amendments were faxed to the Examiner at facsimile number 571-273-2945. On August 9, 2007, the Examiner stated that the proposed claim amendments provided on July 23, 2007 appear to place all pending claims in condition for allowance.

On August 31, 2007, a Notice of Allowance was issued, with an Examiner's Amendment attached thereto. Unfortunately, the Examiner's Amendment dated August 31, 2007 does not exactly agree with the proposed claim amendments provided to the Examiner on July 23, 2007.

For example, the Examiner's Amendment dated August 31, 2007 includes some new informalities in claims 1 and 11. For example, the new informalities include "at at" in claim 1 at line 12 and also ".." in claim 1 at line 24.

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This is an Amendment after Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. The claims have been amended in order to correct informalities therein.

It is the Applicants' position that the amendments to the claims herein are mere corrections of formal matter in the claims without changing the scope of the allowed claims.

Furthermore, it is the applicants' position that such amendments to the claims are needed for proper disclosure or protection of the Applicants' invention, and (2) require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due now or in the future with respect to this application, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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